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Message Text

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THE FOLLOWING TELEGRAM WAS SENT
09 JUN 78 FM AMCONSUL SONGKHLA TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
IMMEDIATE AND IS REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO

QUOTE:

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SONGKHLA 0250
E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SNAR
SUBJECT: REGIONAL SEMINAR HC NARCOTICS PROBLEMS, SOUTHERN
THAILAND, JUNE 5-7, 1978

PASS TO DEA RD ADDARIO FROM SAIC FLYNN, DEA PASS CHIANG MAI DO,
KUALA LUMPUR DO, SINGAPORE DO, JAKARTA DO, TOKYO DO,
HQS EN/EVANS, ENOF/DOYLE, IG/FINK

1. DURING THE PERIOD OF JUNE 5-7, 1978, THE THAI GOVERNMENT
CONDUCTED A REGIONAL SEMINAR ON NARCOTICS PROBLEMS IN
SOUTHERN THAILAND IN HAADYAI. THIS SEMINAR WAS THE FIRST OF
ITS KIND IN THAILAND AND WAS HELD WITH THE PURPOSE OF
MAKING TOP LEVEL LAW ENFORCEMENT, MILITARY, AND OTHER
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GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN THE SOUTHERN 14 PROVINCES AWARE OF THE
GOVERNMENTS' INTEREST AND POLICY REGARDING THE NARCOTICS
PROBLEMS IN THAILAND. THE SEMINAR WAS HELD IN THE SUKHONTHA
HOTEL AND WAS ATTENDED BY APPROXIMATELY 160 THAI OFFICIALS,
REPRESENTATIVES OF MALAYSIA, SINGAPORE, INDONESIA, JAPAN, DEA,
INTERPOL, THE UN, AND THE NARCOTICS ATTACHES FROM AUSTRALIA,
THE NETHERLANDS, FRANCE, SWEDEN, AND CANADA.

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2. ON JUNE 5, MAJOR GENERAL PRAKORB JARUMANEE, UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, OPENED THE SEMINAR. MAJOR GENERAL PAO SARASIN, NEWLY APPOINTED SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD, WAS ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE SEMINAR AND MADE THE OPENING ADDRESS TO THE PARTICIPANTS. IN THIS, PAO CITED THE POSITIVE RESULTS THAT HAD COME FROM COOPERATION BETWEEN THE THAI AND FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS IN THE ATTEMPT TO COMBAT THE INTERNATIONAL NARCOTPCS TRAFFICKING. HE MENTIONED THAT THE CONSTANT FLOW OF INFORMATION BETWEEN THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THESE COUNTRIES AND THAILAND HAD LED TO THE ARRESTS OF SEVERAL HIGH LEVEL TRAFFICKERS AND THE DISRUPTION OF NARCOTICS TRAFFIC INTERNALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY. GENERAL PAO CALLED FOR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE FROM THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AND IMPROVEMENT IN THE EFFORTS OF THE THAI AUTHORITIES TO SUPPRESS NARCOTICS TRAFFIC. HE STATED THAT THE SEMINAR WOULD CREATE A GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND IDEAS WHICH WOULD RESULT IN BETTER COOPERATION.

3. AFTER PAO'S OPENING STATEMENT, SEVERAL THAI POLICE AND CUSTOMS OFFICIALS SPOKE TO THE GROUP CONCERNING THE NARCOTICS PROBLEMS IN THAILAND, ESPECIALLY AS THEY PERTAINED TO THE TRAFFICKING PROBLEMS IN THE SOUTH AND THE TRAFFICKING ROUTES FROM NORTHERN THAILAND TO THE SOUTH. ALSO DISCUSSED WERE THE NARCOTICS LAWS OF THAILAND, THE PROBLEMS OF NARCOTICS
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SUPPRESSION ALONG THE THAI/MALAYSIAN BORDER,OSND THE NEED FOR COOPERATION AND COORDINATION BETWEEN THE VARIOUS UNITS WITH NARCOTICS SUPPRESSION RESPONSIBILITY.

4. ON JUNE 6, DATO ABDUL RAHMAN HAJI ISMAIL, DIRECTOR, CID OF MALAYSIA, BRIEFED THE SEMINAR ON THE NARCOTICS PROBLEMS IN MALAYSIA. HE INDICATED THAT MOST OF THE NARCOTICS GOING INTO MALAYSIA COMES FROM THE NORTHERN PART OF THE COUNTRY AND EMPHASIZED THE NEED FOR COOPERATION AND COORDINATION IN DRUG SUPPRESSION AND CONTROL BETWEEN THAILAND AND MALAYSIA. FOR BETTER BORDER CONTROL, MALAYSIA IS BUILDING A WIRE FENCE ALONG ONE SECTION OF THE THAI/MALAY BORDER. THIS SECTION AS ALMOST BEEN COMPLETED AND TZERZ ARE PLANS TO EXTEND IT IN THE FUTURE. HOWEVER, DATO RAHMAN EXPLAINED THAT THE TERRAIN ALONG THE BORDER DOES NOT PERMIT EASY SUPPRESSION AND CONTROL OF DRUG TRAFFICKING AND OTHER SMUGGLING ACTIVITIES. HE NOTED THAT THE NUMBER OF DRUG ADDICTS IN MALAYSIA ARE ESTIMATED TO BE 150,000 BUT SO FAR THE ADDICTION TRENDS POINT TO THE INCREAS-ING USE OF MORPHINE INSTEAD OF HEROIN.

DATO RAHMAN ALSO EXPLAINED THE LEGAL STRUCBURE THAT GOVERNED DRUG CONTROL EFFORTS IN MALAYSIA, INCLUDING THE LEGISLATION

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ON PREVENTIVE DETENTION. THE DEATH PENALTY AND LIFE IMPRISONMENT WERE THE SEVEREST PUNISHMENTS THAT CAN BE METED OUT TO A CONVICTED TRAFFICKER. HE ALSO POINTED OUT THE UNIQUE FEATURES IN MALAYSIAN LAW, WHERE IN DRUG CASES, SPECIAL PROCEDURES WERE APPLICABLE SUCH AS A TRIAL WITHOUT JURY IN THE HIGH COURTS AND WITHOUT THE FORMALITIES OF MAGISTERIAL PRELIMINARY INQUIRIES.

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5. MR. TAE TUA BA, DIRECTOR OF THE CENTRAL NARCOTICS BUREAU, SINGAPORE, ALSO GAVE A BRIEF STATEMENT TO THE GROUP. HE NOTED THE LAW REGARDING NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING IN SINGAPORE IS SIMILAR TO MALAYSIA BUT THAT THE INDIVIDUAL WHO POSSESSED 15 GRAMS OF HEROIN OR 30 GRAMS OF MORPHINE WAS SUBJECT TO A MAMDATORY DEATH SENTENCE. MOREOVER, THE LAWS IN SINGAPORE NOW PERMIT ADDICTS TO BE DEALT WITH WITHOUT RECOURSE TO COURTS OF LAW, AS THE DIRECTOR OF CNB HAS THE DISCRETION TO ORDER THE PLACEMENT OF ADDINTS AT TREATMENT CENTERS. HE INDICATED THAT THERE ARE PRESENTLY AROUND 9,000 DRUG ADDICTS IN SINGAPORE.

6. ON THE AFTERNOON OF JUNE 6, THE GROUP BROKE UP INTO 5 WORKING GROUPS FOR DISCUSSION OF NARCOTICS PROBLEMS. THESE DISCUSSION GROUPS WERE AS FOLLOWS: #1. TRAFFICKING ROUTES FROM NORTH TO SOUTH. #2. SITUATION OF COORDINATION AND SUPPRESSION. #3. OBSTACLES AND REQUIREMENTS OF POLICE NARCOTICS OFFICIALS. #4. PREVENTION OF EXPORT OF NARCOTICS TO THE INTERNATIONAL MARKET; AND #5. THE INTERCOUNTRY MEETING OF THE FOREIGN DELEGATION. EACH GROUP HAD A CHAIRMAN WHO HAD

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THE RESPONSIBILITY OF BRIEFING THE SEMINAR REGARDING THEIR GROUP DISCUSSION PRIOR TO THE CLOSING ADDRESS ON JUNE 7.

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7. ON JUNE 7, DEPUTY INTERIOR MINISTER, GENERAL PREM TINASULANONDA, ARRIVED TO CLOSE THE SEMINAR. PRIOR TO HIS CLOSING ADDRESS, EACH CHAIRMAN OF THE 5 WORKING GROUPS GAVE A SUMMATION OF THEIR GROUP'S DISCUSSION AND FINDINGS. THE CHAIRMAN OF GROUP #1, POLICE COLONEL PHAAD DOUANGIIT, PHATTALUNG PROVINCE POLICE CHIEF, DISCUSSED RECENT NARCOTICS SIZURES, THE ADDICTION PROBLEM, CORRUPTION OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, AND THE NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING ROUTES. HE THEN LISTED THE WEAKNESSES OF THE SUPPRESSION UNITS. THESE WERE THE LACK OF KNOWLEDGE REGARDING NARCOTICS AND THE ACT OF CONDUCTING NARCOTICS INVESTIGATIONS, THE LACK OF INTELLIGENCE, THE LACK OF KNOWLEDGE REGARDING THE TRAFFICKERS AND THEIR ACTIVITIES, THE POLICE TEND TO MAKE INSIGNIFICANT ARRESTS AND SEIZURES DUE TO THEIR LACK OF TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE, AND THE LACK OF MANPOWER.

COLONEL PHAAD THEN MADE THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS: #1. THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD REGARD NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS US DESTROYERS OF THE NATION AND A SOUTHERN NARCOTICS SUPPRESSION CENTER SHOULD BE CREATED TO COMBAT THE PROBLEM. IF IT IS FOUND THAT THE SUPPRESSION CENTER COULD NOT DO AN EFFECTIVE JOB, THE ISOC (INTERNAL SECURITY OPERATIONS COMMAND) SHOULD BE GIVEN THE RESPONSIBILITY AND, #2. INTENSIVE TRAINING SHOULD BE GIVEN TO ALL OF THE POLICE TO ENABLE THEM TO CARRY OUT THEIR RESPONSCBILITIES IN NARCOTICS SUPPRESSION. COLONEL PHAAD CLOSED HIS REMARKS BY SAYING THE GOVERNMENT HAS TO SOLVE THIS PROBLEM IMMEDIATELY BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE.

8. SPOKESMAN FOR GROUP 2, POLICE COLONEL NIRADOM TANTREUK, POLICE CHIEF OF SATUL PROVINCE, DISCUSSED THE NEED FOR COORDINATION WND SUPPRESSION, THE NEED FOR SYSTEMS AND OBJECTIVES FOR OPERATIONS TO COMBAT THE NARCOTICS PROBLEM, AND THE PROBLEMS OF MANPTLER AND TRAINING. HIS GROUP CONSIDERED
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THE MAIN PROBLEMS TO BE THE LACK OF TRAINING, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT, AND THE NEED TO SPEED UP AND GIVE A CLEAR PICTURE REGARDING THE PAYMENT OF REWARDS.

9. GROUP 3 SPOKESMAN, POLICE COLONEL BAMROONG KHEO-URAI, METROPOLITAN POLICE NARCOTIC UNIT, BANGKOK, DISCUSSED THE

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NEED FOR THE SELECTION OF GOOD OFFICIALS TO WORK ON SUPPRESSION OF NARCOTICS AND TO GIVE THEM THE KNOWLEDGE OF WHAT THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES ARE. THERE IS A LACK OF TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT,

VEHICLES, FUNDS, TRAINING, AND MANPOWER. THE GOVERN-
MENT SHOULD CREATE AN INTELLIGENCE CENTER FOR NARCOTICS IN EACH PROVINCE, PROVIDE A BETTER AND CLEARER REWARD SYSTEM, AND PROVIDE FUNDS FOR FLASHROLLS, PAYMENT OF CI EXPENSES, AND PURCHASE OF EVIDENCE. COLONEL BAMROONG DISCUSSED THE LACK OF EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION BETWEEN DIFFERENT UNITS AND THE NEED TO HAVE THE ONCB COMMITTEE APPOINT THE GOVERNOR OF EACH PROVINCE TO BE THE COORDINATOR FOR EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION.

COLONEL BAMRGONG STATED THAT EVEN THOUGH THESE PROBLEMS EXISTED, IT WAS TIME FOR THE THAI POLICE TO CARRY OUT THEIR RESPONSIBILICIES TO THE BEST OF THEIR ABILITY AND STOP USING THE LACK OF MANPOWER, EQUIPMENT, MONEY, ETC., AS AN EXCUSE FOR NOT DOING THEIR JOB.
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10. POLICE COLONEL THIRAPOL INTHAVICHA, POLICE CHIEF OF NARATHIWAT PROVINCE AND SPOKESMAN FOR GROUP 4, SPOKE REGARDING THE INTERNATIONAL TRAFFICKING ROUTES, ESPECIALLY AS REGARDS THE THAI/MELAYSIA BORDER. HE STATED THAT AT THE PRESENT TIME ONLY THE BORDER PATROL POLICE AND PNSC-S HAVE REAL COORDINATION WITH DEA AND HE SUGGESTED THAT CLOSER COORDINATION BE ESTABLISHED BETWEEN ALL POLICE UNITS AND DEA IN ORDER TO HAVE GREATER INPUT ON THE INTERNATIONAL

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TRAFFIC.

COLONEL THIRAPOL SAID THAT THERE IS ONLY ONE 12-MAN NARCOTIC UNIT (PNSC-S) IN SOUTHERN THAILAND AND THESE ARE THE ONLY POLICE WITH EXPERIENCE IN NARCOTICS SUPPRESSION. HIS GROUP BELIEVES THAT THIS UNIT IS NOT ENOUGH AND THAT ALL POLICE UNITS SHOULD HAVE POLICEMEN WITH NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE. COLONEL THIRAPOL ALSO CITED THE NEED FOR A NARCOTICS COORDINATION CENTER WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ENSURING PROPER COORDINATION BETWEEN THE DIFFERENT AGENCIES INVOLVED IN THE SUPPRESSIONNOF NARCOTICS. HE ALSO EXPRESSED THE NEED FOR TRAINING OF POLICE OFFICERS IN THE FIELD OF NARCOTICS INVESTIGATIONS. THE LACK OF TRAINING IS REFLECTED BY THE FACT THAT 47 PERCENT OF THE PEOPLE IN JAIL ARE INCARCERATED FOR NARCOTICS POSSESSION AND NOT TRAFFICKING.
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11. GROUP 5 SPOKESMAN, LT. GENERAL CHUPOL PLANGKUL, DEPUTY CHIEF, MANPOWER DIVISION, ROYAL THAI AIR FORCE, BANGKOK, DISCUSSED THE NEED FOR CONTINUED INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND SUGGESTED THAT SEMINARS LIKE THIS ONE SHOULD BE HELD EVERY FOUR MONTHS. HE STATED THAT STEPS SHOULD BE TAKEN TO ENSURE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND THIS COULD BE DONE WITH THE HELP OF DEA.

GENERAL CHUPOL DISCUSSED THE NEED FOR A NARCOTICS CONSPIRACY LAW SUCH AS CANADA OR SOME OTHER COUNTRIES HAVE. HE ALSO PRAISED THE CROP SUBSTITUTION PROGRAM AND SAID THAT IT SHOULD CONTINUE IN THE FUTURE AS THE RESULTS GAINED SO FAR HAVE BEEN GOOD.

12. UPON CONCLUSION OF THE BRIEFINGS BY THE SPOKESMEN OF THE 5 GROUPS, DEPUTY INTERIOR MINISTER, GENERAL PREM GAVE A CLOSING ADDRESS. ALTHOUGH CLOSING REMARKS HAD BEEN PREPARED FOR GENERAL PREM, HE INFORMED THE ATTENDING OFFICIALS THAT HE HAD DECIDED TO SPEAK CANDIDLY TO THEM BECAUSE OF SOME COMMENTS WHICH WERE MADE BY THE PREVIOUS 5 SPEAKERS. HE ALLUDED TO MENTION OF CORRUPTION AND THE COMMENTS OF COLONEL BAMROONG WHEN HE SAID IT WAS TIME FOR THE POLICE TO START CARRYING OUT THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES INSTEAD OF USING PROBLEM AREAS AS AN EXCUSE FOR NOT DOING THEIR JOB. GENERAL PREM THANKED THE PARTICIPANTS AND STATED THAT HE WAS PROUD OF THE RESULTS WHICH HAD BEEN RELATED TO HIM BY THE 5 GROUP SPOKESMEN. HE FURTHER STATED THAT ALTHOUGH HE WAS TO TALK ABOUT THE GOVERNMENT POLICY REGARDING NARCOTICS, HE WOULD NOT DO SO BECAUSE EVERY OFFICIAL IN THE ROOM KNEW THE POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT CONCERNING THIS PROBLEM.

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GENERAL PREM CONTINUED BY SAYING THAT HE TOO DOES NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT KNOWLEDGE CONCERNING DRUGS AND PREVENTION BUT THAT GENERAL PAO HAS BEEN GIVING EVERYONE PRESENT SOME DETAILED KNOWLEDGE. HE BELIEVED THAT THE OFFICIALS SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON PREVENTION RATHER THAN SUPPRESSION AND THAT SEMINARS SHOULD BE HELD ON THE SUBJECT OF PREVENTIVE ACTION. PARENTS SHOULD BECOME AWARE OF THE DRUG PROBLEM AND USE PRECAUTIONS TO PREVENT THEIR CHILDREN FROM BECOMING ADDICTED. THE CHILDREN SHOULD BE GIVEN KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE DANGERS OF DRUGS SO THEY DO NOT BECOME INVOLVED WITH DRUGS FOR ANY PURPOSE.

GENERAL PREM REITERATED THAT HE WAS PROUD OF THE KNOWLEDGE PRESENTED TO HIM BY THE 5 SPEAKERS AND AGREED WITH COLONEL BAMROONG THAT THE LACK OF MANPOWER AND MONEYSARE NOT OBSTACLES TO THE POINT THAT THEY CANNOT DO THE JOB. GENERAL PREM STATED THAT, "WE HAVE TO MAKE THE BEST USE OF WHAT WE HAVE. WE ARE A POOR COUNTRY AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE POOR. THE LACK OF EVERYTHING NECESSARY FOR IMPLEMENTING SUPPRESSION OF NARCOTICS HAS ALWAYS EXISTED BUT WE ARE LACKING IN EVERY NEEDED THING. THEY WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO SATISFY ONE'S DEMANDS NO MATTAR HOW MUCH ONE GETS. WE JUST HAVE TO SOLVE OUR PROBLEMS ON THIS BASIS OF THE AVAILABLE RESOURCES THAT OUR POOR NATION HAS AND MAKE THE BEST OF IT."

REGARDING REWARDS, GENERAL PRE M DECLARED THAT THE PARTICIPANTS SHOULD NOT NEED TO MAKE MENTION OF REWARDS BUT RATHER THEY SHOULD THINK OF INTEGRITY AND HONESTY INSTEAD. YOU CRITICIZE AT LENGTH THAT YOU DO NOT RECEIVE A FAIR SHARE AND THAT PAYMENT US SLOW. THIU IS TRUE BUT AGAIN THINK OF INTEGRITY AND HONESTY.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER CONTINUED BY SAYING THAT HE HAS ATTENDAD MANY SEMINARS AND THEY USUALLY HAD INTELLECTUALS EXCHANGING INFORMATION FROM TEXT BOOKS, BUT THIS ONE WAS DIFFERENT BECAUSE THE PARTICIPANTS WERE EXCHANGING INFORMATION OF A

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DIFFERENT NATURE AND WERE BEING TRUTHFUL WITH EACH OTHER. THIS WAS IMPORTANT BECAUSE EVERYONE SHOULD BE CONCERNED ABOUT THE CORRUPTION OF OFFICIALS AND THE CARRYING OUT OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES. THOSE OFFICIALS WHO HAVE FORGOTTEN THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES AND PRACTICE FORMS OF CORRUPTION SHOULD BE CONSIDERED TRAITORS. GENERAL PREM STATED THAT HE WAS

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SORRY TO MENTION VIETNAM BUT THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT FOR
HIM TO DO SO AS THE DRUG PROBLEM WHICH EXISTED THERE
CONTRIBUTED TO THE FALL OF THAT COUNTRY. IF THIS WAS IN FACT
TRUE, IT MEANT THAT NARCOTICS WERE ASKIND OF WEAPON TO BE USED
BY THE ENEMY AND THAILAND WAS NOW CONFRONTED WITH THIS
PROBLEM. THIS THEN IS A PROBLEM CONCERNING THE SECURITY OF

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PARA 3)

THE NATION AND CORRUPT OFFICIALS OR THOSE THAT DO NOT CARRY
OUT THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES ARE CERTAINLY TRAITORS WHEN THE
SECURITY OF THE NATION IS AT STAKE. IF THE OFFICIALS DO NOT
CARRY OUT THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES OR ARE DISHONEST,
SOONER OR LATER EVERYTHING WILL BE LOST, INCLUDING
THE NATION.

PREM CONTINUED BY SAYING HE HAD SEEN AN ANNOUNCEMENT FROM
THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE PROPOSING HEAVY PUNISHMENT FOR
CORRUPT OFFICIALS AND PROMOTIONS AND REWARDS FOR HONEST
OFFICIALS WHO CARRY OUT THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES. CONCERNING
THIS ANNOUNCEMENT, PREM RELATED THAT SOMEONE HE HAD RUN INTO
WAS KIDDING HIM ABOUT BEING CAREFUL BECAUSE ALL OF THE
POLICE AT THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE MIGHT RESIGN. PREM TOLD
THE GROUP THAT THEY DID NOT HAVE TO BE CONCERNED ABOUT THIS
IF THEY WERE TRUTHFUL AND HONEST BUT THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD
TO TAKE DEFINITE MEASURES REGARDING THIS PROBLEM AS IT IS
SERIOUS. USING LOG POACHING AS AN EXAMPLE, PREM CONTINUED BY
SASING THAT THE GOVERNMENT CANNOT ALLOW THIS TYPE OF THING TO

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CONTINUE AS THIS GOVERNMENT IS ONLY TEMPORARY AND IT MUST
WORK TO BENEFIT THE NATION IF THE NATION IS TO SURVIVE.
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DEPUTY MINISTER PREM THEN ASKED THE GROUP TO PLEASE TRUST IN HIM AND THAT IF THEY DID A GOOD JOB AND WERE HONEST, THEY WOULD GET HIS BACKING AND SUPPORT. HOWEVER, THOSE WHO DO NOT DO A GOOD JOB OR ARE DISHONEST WERE WARNED THAT HE WOULD TAKE DEFINITE ACTION AGAINST THEM. HE SAID HE WAS TRULY SORRY TO HAVE TO SAY THAT BUT HE WILL DO IT.

PREX CLOSED HIS REMARKS BY THANKING THE INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPANTS FOR THEIR ASSISTANCE AND COOPERATION AND STATED THAT THAILAND WILL NOT DISREGARD THE NARCOTICS PROBLEM AND IT IS WILLING AND READY TO CONTINUE TO COOPERATE WITH ALL NATIONS CONCERNED WITH THIS PROBLEM.

13. SDO COMMENTS: THIS SEMINAR WAS THE RESULT OF DEA EFFORTS TO HAVE THE THAI GOVERNMENT GET THE OFFICIALS OF SOUTHERN THAILAND AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES TOGETHER TO DISCUSS THE MUTUAL PROBLEMS OF NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING IN THIS AREA AND ALSO TO SHOW THE OFFICIALS OF SOUTHERN THAILAND THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS INTERESTED IN THE PROBLEMS OF THE SOUTH.S CREDIT MUST BE GIVEN TO GENERAL PAO SARASIN WHO AGREED WITH DEA'S PROPOSAL AND RECOMMENDED TO THE PRIME MINISTER THAT SUCH A MEETING SHOULD BE HELD. PREPARATION FOR THE SEMINAR WAS HANDLED BY GENERAL PAO'S OFFICE AND THE ATTENDANCE BY MORE THAN 90 PERCENT OF THE INVITED OFFICIALS IS AN INDICATION OF HOW WELL THE SEMINAR WAS CONDUCTED.

14. OVERALL THE SEMINAR WAS SUCCESSFUL IN CARRYING OUT THE OBJECTIVES SET FOR IT. INTEREST WAS HIGH BUT IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN BETTER IF THERE HAD BEEN FEWER PACTICIPANTS BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF BETTER CONFERENCE FACILITIES. THE ATTENDANCE BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE THAI MILITARY WAS
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ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT AND THEY DID PARTICIPATE RATHER THAN OBSERVE. THE IMPROMPTU REMARKS OF DEPUTY MINISTER PREM WERE CERTAINLY THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE SEMINAR. HIS REMARKS WERE DIRECTED TO THE THAI OFFICIALS IN SUCH A WAY THAT IT WAS LIKE A PERSONAL PLEA FROM HIM TO COMBAT THE TRAFFICKING OF NARCOTICS BECAUSE OF THE EFFECT ON THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF THAILAND AND THAILAND ITSELF. THAT HIS REMARKS REACHED HIS AUDIENCE

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WAS MADE QUITE EVIDENT BY THE CONTINUED DISCUSSION CONCERNING HIS SPEECH BY PARTICIPANTS DURING THE REMAINDER OF THEIR STAY IN HAADYAI. MOST WERE SURPRISED BY HIS CANDOR AND FELT THAT THEY HAD BEEN ISSUED A CHALLANGE THAT THEY MUST TRY TO MEET. MANY COMMENTS WERE MADE CONCERNING THE GOOD EFFECT THE SEMINAR AND PREM'S VISIT HAD ON THE MORALE OF THE POLICE WHO ARE WORKING IN THE 14 SOUTHERN PROVINCES. IT IS HOPED THAT THROUGH THIS BEGINNING, WE WILL BE ABLE TO ESTABLISH GREATER INTEREST IN THE FLOW OF NARCOTICS THROUGH SOUTHERN THAILAND.

15. SEVERAL INTERESTING SUBJECTS WERE DISCUSSED THAT ARE OF INTEREST. ONE WAS A PROPOSAL BY DATO RAHMAN REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TASK FORCE OF THAI AND MALAYSIAN POLICE TO WORK TOGETHER ON THEIR MUTUAL PROBLEMS. ANOTHER WAS THE STRONG DISCUSSION OF THE NEED FOR A NARCOTICS CONSPIRACY LAW IN ORDER TO ENABLE THE POLICE TO INVESTIGATE AND ARREST THE MAJOR TRAFFICKERS, MOST OF WHOM ARE KNOWN TO THE POLICE IN THEIR RESPECTIVE PROVINCES. ALTHOUGH NO DECISIONS WERE REACHED, THESE ARE TWO AREAS THAT SHOULD BE FOLLOWED UP ON.

16. THE MAJOR COMPLAINT OF THE PARTICIPANTS CONCERNED THE LACK OF TRAINING WHICH THE POLICE HAVE AS PERTAINS TO NARCOTICS INVESTIGATIONS. EACH GROUP RAISED THIS POINT SEVERAL TIMES AND IT IS THE OBSERVATION OF SDO THAT IT IS AN EXTREMELY VALID COMPLAINT. EFFORTS NEED TO BE MADE TO FURNISH WHATEVER TRAINING IS AVAILABLE TO THE POLICE UNITS IN THE SOUTH ON AN EXPEDCTED BASIS. ALTHOUGH THE THAI MOBILE POLICE TRAINING TEAMS HAVE GIVEN TRAINING TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SEVERAL CLASSES OF POLICE IN THIS AREA, THEY HAVE NOT GIVEN THE TYPE OF BASIC INVESTIGATIVE TRAINING NECESSARY TO ENABLE THE POLICE TO CARRY OUT COMPLEX NARCOTICS INVESTIGATIONS. THIS IS NOT TO SAY THAT THE MOBILE TEAMS ARE NOT PRODUCTIVE. THEY ARE AND THEY DO AN EXCELLENT JOB IN THE AREAS THAT THEY HAVE TAUGHT BUT THIS IS NOT SAFFICUENT TO ALLEVIATE THE OVERALL PROBLEM HERE. IN THE PAST, SOUTHERN THAILAND HAS BEEN IGNORED WHEN IT CAME TO TRAINING AND OTHER PROBLEM AREAS BECAUSE OF THE GREATER PROBLEMS IN THE NORTH AND BANGKOK. ASSISTANCE IN THIS AREA IS NOW NECESSARY AND DESIRED BY THE DIFFERENT THAI LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES IN THE SOUTH.

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HAYASHIDA

UNQOUTE

WHITEHOUSE UNQTE

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NARCOTICS, DRUG CONTROL, SEMINARS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BANGKO16721
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780244-0787
Format: TEL
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780672/aaaacjne.tel
Line Count: 548
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ed9dbf8b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SNM
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 10
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2400823
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REGIONAL SEMINAR HC NARCOTICS PROBLEMS, SOUTHERN THAILAND, JUNE 5-7, 1978 PASS TO DEA RD ADDARIO FROM SAIC FLYNN, DEA PASS C
TAGS: SNAR, TH
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ed9dbf8b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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